

Aundance of Melody Allied With Comedy in Week's Amusements

Premiere of Joseph Stanley's "All Over Town," "The Spring Maid," and "Chocolate Soldier" Provide Music With Words of "So Much For So Much" and "The Might Have Been."

The presentation of Joseph Stanley in a musical comedy of revue characteristics of his own writing, "All Over Town," brings to the Belasco a notable collection of dramatic and musical stars as well as opportunity for Washington playgoers to pass judgment on a brand new production. In "The Spring Maid," by the Columbia Musical Comedy Company, there will be several special features in addition to the finished production for which the company has already set a standard.

Dramatically, the first stock production of Wellar Mack's "So Much For So Much," by the Poli Players, will head the week's lists, but not far away from it will come Charlotte Walker's one-act play at Keith's, "The Might Have Beens." The actors and "actresses" of the famous Mask and Wig Club of the University of Pennsylvania, are to hold forth in "Paradise Prison" at the Belasco tomorrow night. At the Gayety "The Girls from Happyland" are scheduled for appearance and the smaller houses will offer vaudeville or pictures as the main features of their programs provide.

BELASCO.

Joseph Stanley, with a company of seventy-five people, will present the musical fantasy, "All Over Town," at the Belasco Theater for four days beginning next Wednesday night, with matinee Saturday only.

The book of "All Over Town" is provided by Mr. Stanley, the lyrics are by Harry B. Smith and the music by Silvio Hain. The piece, which is presented under the auspices of the Shubert Theatre Company, is a musical comedy in two acts, and is staged by J. C. Huffman. The dances are arranged by Jack Mason, of the Winter Garden, New York, and the costumes designed by Melville Ellis. There are twenty-two musical numbers in "All Over Town."

Mr. Stanley has, however, been able to live down his past. He has surrounded himself with an excellent company, the two leading comedians of which are Walter Jones and Roy Atwell. Others of importance are Louise Morgan, Beatrice Allen, Blanche Deyo, Richard Taber, Ruth Randall, Saranoff, Lillian Lee, Dorothy Young, and Charles Morgan. The story of "All Over Town" is told in two acts. The first scene is laid in the green room of a theatrical opera house. Reginald Faust, in the person of Joseph Stanley, is visiting behind the scenes. The next scene is an opera box at the same theatre. All that follows is the enactment of his dream, which is described as a very liberal modern adaptation of "Faust," excessively, pathetically and unlikably liberal—but, nevertheless, "Faust."

MASK AND WIG CLUB.

Always presenting plays that are colorful, tuneful, splendidly staged, and costumed, and excellently acted, "Paradise Prison," this year's allegorical musical satire of the Mask and Wig Club, the famous organization of the University of Pennsylvania, which comes to the Belasco tomorrow night, is said to be beyond even the traditional standard.

"Paradise Prison" is the twenty-seventh annual play of the Mask and Wig Club. It is full of brilliant light effects, charming melodies, and a successful musical comedy. The "girl" in Dresden is said to be superb. "Glad" in Dresden silks, the "girl" shows the coming fashions. They dance with an ease and grace significant of the excellence of their instruction by Charles S. Morgan, Jr. A gle feature, entitled "Please Be My Model," sung by the leading "lady," assisted by members of the University of Pennsylvania Glee Club, dressed in studio garb, is easily the song hit and color feature of the play. A pantomime done before a black curtain by Pierrots and Columbines takes second place.

GAYETY.

A burlesque entertainment of great variety is promised with the coming of Joe Hurtig's new "Girls of Happyland," which will be the attraction at the Gayety Theater this week. No expense has been spared in equipping and staging the piece.

The production was staged under the personal direction of Dan Dooly, and Mr. Hurtig has engaged a cast of more than ordinary ability as his entertainers. Princess Luba Meroff heads this cast, and is ably assisted by a number of well-known favorites. Phil Doyle and Frank Harcourt are the principal funmakers. Ward and Bohman come direct from a big vaudeville run, and have a specialty of their own. The Three Creighton Sisters with Nellie Lockwood, the dancing soubrette, furnish the rest of the principals.

COSMOS.

The Washington Quintet will be the exceptional number of the Cosmos Theater program this week. It is composed of gifted players and its offering is said to be far above the usual vaudeville repertoire. Another special number will be "A Japanese Entertainment," who will present a variety of Oriental novelties, including water spinning, jap stick juggling, equilibristic feats, etc.

Billy Elwood, the newspaper cartoonist, will appear in character entertainment. Louis Chevalier and company, headed by Fern Marshall, will offer Mr. Chevalier's comedy, "Chance." In addition, Climeron and company have a dancing travesty of physical culture, with grotesque comedy, and Devalide and Zaida, an act of juggling and equilibristic feats, culminating with a bicycle finish.

CASINO.

Manager Watkins, of the Casino Theater, this week will present, as his headline attraction, the famous Lady Betty, known as the adopted daughter of Consul, the remarkable ape that made scientists sit up and take notice of its imitations of plain humanity, cultivated and otherwise.

Another rare attraction will be the Hoosier girl, Marie King Scott, in a character monologue. The comedienne herself is quaint in her personality, and her vocal entertainment scintillates with homely wit and the merriest kind of humor.

Newport and Sirk will add their skit, "The Barber's Busy Day." Murphy and Lachmar will sing new songs, while Howard Chase and company will present "Chance."

The big photoplay feature will be Paul Armstrong's "The Deep Purple," starring Clara Kimball Young.

STARS AT CAPITAL THEATERS THIS WEEK



C.S. PAYNE, Mask and Wig Club - Belasco

Nansen in Tolstoi's "Anna Karenina." In addition to the regular program Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Charlie Chaplin will be seen in "My the Sea."

GARDEN.

Bessie Barriscale will be featured at Moore's Garden Theater today and tomorrow in "The Cup of Life," by C. Gardner Sullivan, produced by Thomas H. Ince. It is a vivid contrast of poverty and riches, and shows the fate of a young girl who finds her cup of life filled with bitterness and degradation. Miss Barriscale will be supported by Frank Borzage, Arthur Maude, Howard Hickman, Ned Markey and others.

Tuesday and Wednesday, Francesca Bertini will be seen in "The Woman Who Dared." Miss Bertini is called upon to perform a most daring story in photoplay, "A Child of God." It is a picture of the great West, where men and women shape their own destinies in the struggle of life. The leading roles are assumed by Sam De Grasse, Francesca Billington and Richard Cummings.

MOORE'S STRAND.

At the Strand Theater this week the headline attraction from Sunday to Tuesday is Irene Fenwick in "The Commuters," from the comedy by James Forbes. Its theme concerns the trials and tribulations of suburbanites. Miss Fenwick has a role that perfectly fits her personality, and in her support will be seen Dan Moyle, Charles Judels, Agnes Mare, George Le Guere, and Marie Collins.

Marie Bennett and Lydia Borelli will be seen Wednesday and Thursday in "Souls Enchained," an emotional drama touching practically every phase of modern Parisian life.

For the remainder of the week Bessie Barriscale, Edward J. Connelly, and other Mutual stars will again be seen in Franz Molnar's "The Devil."

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Twinkling Stars and a Satellite or Two

By GARDNER MACK.

It is curious how often people live next door to each other for years and then go to a summer resort some hundreds of miles away to meet each other. Some few years ago I kept an engagement to eat a genuine New England Thanksgiving dinner with a red-headed school teacher in a little town called Surigao on the northern coast of the island of Mindanao.

This teacher was a sort of good angel to all Americans in that section of the world at that time and had invited a lot of us who happened to be neighbors of hers—in a manner of speaking—to partake of this regular meal with pumpkin pie et cetera. Where she managed to dig up all the ingredients in that particularly outlandish place, nobody could learn. However, she gave this dinner, and of the invited guests one failed her—a young officer in command of a constabulary post near Camp Vicars.

Just why he didn't turn up nobody took the trouble to inquire because constabulary officers are inclined to be busy at the oddest sort of times in that part of the universe—especially in the Moro country. The rest of us punished all the limes offered us to eat and simply nipped the absences.

Last week I happened to meet Albert Roscoe, the new leading man of the Belasco Theater, and he told me that he had a familiarity with that led to a long questioning. He said he had at one time commanded a company of Moro constabulary—one of the first companies ever organized in the Moro country from the first of the month and his inquisition led to the startling information that at the very time I was eating that Thanksgiving dinner he was in command of the company at Vicars. Likewise he remembered the red-headed school teacher of Surigao—which was quite a little distance from his post—and her habit of providing fellow Americans with good things to eat. Also he remembered and regretted a certain Thanksgiving dinner he didn't get, but to which an invitation from the red-headed teacher gave him title. We compared dates—it was the same dinner.

No—just like it sounds: vahn—as in valse; eeo, emphasizing the last sound like the first of the month and giving the whole word a strong accent on the "vahn"—that is the way to pronounce Novasio. Like this, No-VAH-seeo! The first name is Lenore—just like one of "The Raven." And it is probably because it is the same kind of a Lenore as the one who was the first of the month, so different personally.

She recognized the difference immediately her eyes were opened and she has been patiently working ever since to demonstrate it at every opportunity. Of course, Miss Novasio hasn't been engaged on the task such a very long time. Which is all the more commendable, when one thinks of the remarkable progress she has made.

She isn't a native of the United States, although she is an American by birth. No joke is intended on St. Louis—the city she claims as home—because she was really born in Turin, Italy, where she also went to school for a time. Her parents, who had lived in St. Louis previous to going to Turin, returned there voluntarily, sort of gave themselves up, in a manner of speaking—and that city has been written opposite the daughter's name on hotel registers in all sections of the country.

Miss Novasio began her musical comedy labors with the Dolmar Gardens company in St. Louis. Washingtonians do not realize that the Park and the Dolmar are rather important places in St. Louis, and any sort of a musical comedy job on their stages is important.

The nimble feet, vivacious personality and snapping eyes of Miss Novasio made the job she was filling the one most people looked toward with pleasure, at any rate. And she was able to go from the Dolmar to big New York productions, where her same assets brought her big dividends.

But she isn't entirely satisfied. At the top of her head she has a comedy sense—she sighs for other worlds to conquer. She isn't sure whether she'd rather be a baseball player or a farmer. She can play baseball—St. Louis has a ball, that is—and she's been to St. Charles, where all the things for the St. Louis market come from. Also she's been out in Montgomery county, Md. and it is barely possible that she'll buy a place for herself.

"The Boomerang," the new Belasco comedy produced in Baltimore last week, is said to be one of the best comedies Belasco has ever presented. It was written by Winchell Smith and Victor Mapes and the company playing it includes Wallace Eddinger, Louise Rutter, Arthur Byron, Gilbert Douglass, and Martha Hedman.

To Tell the Story of The Stars and Stripes

The story of the Stars and Stripes is to be told by Miss Kate S. Curry, official reader of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at the Church of Our Father next Wednesday evening. The lecture has been prepared after a most exhaustive study into the history of the flag. She has traced the story of every flag that was carried by the varied organizations of colonial volunteers who responded to the call to arms in 1775.

The principal facts leading up to the adoption of the present form of the nation's banner will be recited, and the progress of the country brought into the lecture through the fact of the increasing number of stars. Miss Curry has obtained a number of interesting pictures relating to the flag, which have been colored, and will be used to illustrate her lecture. In addition to the colored photographs there will be motion pictures that have a bearing on the subject.

Musical Comedy Between Entree and the Roast

NEW YORK, April 23.—Tabloid, abbreviated musical comedy is the newest addition to menus of Gotham's lobster palaces. Today the chefs are being backed off the card to a large extent by the brilliant Dottie Dimples. Of course, the lobster cafes are still retained in action as places to eat, but the cabaret craze has now gone a step farther and real musical comedy is provided for patrons.

The cafe musical comedy troupes are composed of really, truly actors and actresses (mostly of the feminine variety, however, and not one cabaret or vaudeville principal disguised as an "artist"). Some of the cafe troupes are offering condensed musical comedies, with as many as a dozen players in the cast, a real plot, and songs and dances especially prepared for the dramatic vehicle. This puts those who have inaugurated it in the role of theatrical managers as well as restaurateurs.

A feature of the plan, to spread out the burden of expense, is also to have troupes of the "cup of life" by C. Gardner Sullivan, produced by Thomas H. Ince. It is a vivid contrast of poverty and riches, and shows the fate of a young girl who finds her cup of life filled with bitterness and degradation. Miss Barriscale will be supported by Frank Borzage, Arthur Maude, Howard Hickman, Ned Markey and others.

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